

CLAIM

1. A method of transporting and installing articles slated for inventory to an article dispensing machine, comprising the steps of:

storing an article of inventory within an article transport storage unit;

assigning the article transport storage unit to an article dispensing machine;

causing the article transport storage unit to be in a locked condition wherein the article of inventory cannot be accessed;

causing delivery of the locked article transport storage unit to the article dispensing machine;

permitting installation of the locked article transport storage unit into the article dispensing machine; and

following installation of the article transport storage unit into the article dispensing machine, causing the article transport storage unit to enter an unlocked condition wherein the article of inventory is accessible.